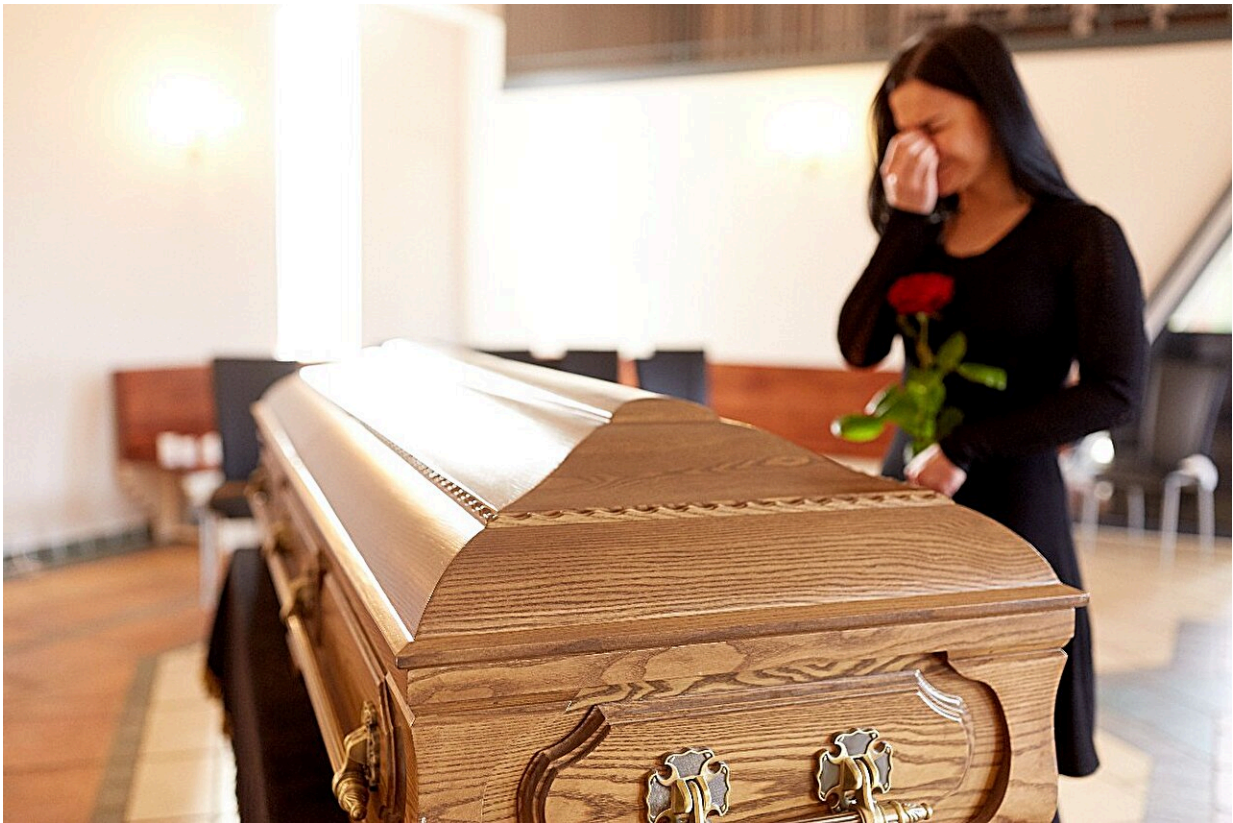


# Research finds suicide the leading cause of violent deaths in 48 states and D.C. in 2021

July 11 2024, by Elana Gotkine

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There were 70,688 violent deaths that occurred in 48 states and the District of Columbia in 2021, more than half of which were suicides, according to [research published](#) in the July 11 issue of the U.S. Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Brenda L. Nguyen, M.P.H., from the CDC in Atlanta, and colleagues collected data regarding [violent deaths](#) that occurred in 2021 from [death certificates](#), coroner and medical examiner records, and [law enforcement reports](#).

Information was obtained on 68,866 fatal incidents involving 70,688 deaths that occurred in 48 states and the District of Columbia in 2021. The researchers found that of the 70,688 deaths, most were [suicides](#) (58.2 percent), followed by homicides, deaths of undetermined intent that might be due to violence, legal intervention deaths, and unintentional firearm injury deaths (31.5, 8.2, 1.3, and

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